

## REFERENCES

(Additional to Levi, 1970)

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COMMENTS ON THE APPLICATION TO USE THE PLENARY POWERS  
TO DESIGNATE THE TYPE-SPECIES OF *ACANTHOPLEUROCERAS*  
HYATT, 1900 (CLASS CEPHALOPODA, ORDER AMMONOIDEA).  
Z.N.(S.) 1909

By M. K. Howarth (*British Museum (Natural History), London*)

1. I wish to support the application (Getty, 1970, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 27 : 105-109) for the use of the plenary powers to designate *Ammonites valdani* d'Orbigny, 1844 (*non Turritiles valdani* d'Orbigny, 1843) as type-species of *Acanthopleuroceras* Hyatt, 1900. *A. valdani* has always been considered to be the characteristic species of *Acanthopleuroceras*, it is the index-species of a subzone of the Ibex Zone, and to interpret the genus according to either of the other two originally included species would cause confusion and unnecessary change in ammonite systematics and Liassic zonal nomenclature. Designation of *A. valdani* as the type-species will stabilize *Acanthopleuroceras* according to customary usage.

2. While supporting the general theme of the application, I wish to oppose the use of the replacement name *Ammonites binotatus* Oppel (1862 : 133) as the specific name for the type-species of *Acanthopleuroceras*. In the original application *A. binotatus* was used because, following Art. 59(c) of the Code, a secondary homonym cannot be revived if it was originally rejected and replaced before 1961. The two species concerned are *Turritiles valdani* d'Orbigny (1843 : 179) and *Ammonites valdani* d'Orbigny (1844 : 255). When Oppel (1862 : 133) transferred the former species to the genus *Ammonites*, the latter species became a junior secondary homonym and was replaced by *Ammonites binotatus* Oppel (1862 : 133). According to Art. 59(c) *A. binotatus* remains the valid name even though *T. valdani* d'Orbigny, 1843 (a *Bifericeras*) and *A. valdani* d'Orbigny, 1844, would not now be put into the same genus by any palaeontologist. They can no longer be put together in the genus *Ammonites*, because that genus has been placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology.

3. The specific name *Ammonites valdani* d'Orbigny, 1844, should be saved on three grounds:

- (a) It is the most commonly used species of *Acanthopleuroceras* and is often quoted as characteristic of the genus. *Ammonites binotatus* has been used only very rarely by palaeontologists (Haug, 1885: 601; Roman, 1938: 107) since its proposal in 1862. Substitution of *binotatus* instead of *valdani* now will only upset long-established usage.
- (b) *Acanthopleuroceras valdani* is the index species of the Valdani Subzone (Ibex Zone, Lower Pliensbachian), which is widely recognized throughout north-west-Europe (Dean, Donovan & Howarth, 1961: 465). A change in zonal nomenclature is best avoided if it is not necessary.
- (c) There is no longer any possibility of confusing *T. valdani* d'Orbigny, 1843 and *A. valdani* d'Orbigny, 1844, by their being placed in the same genus. They can no longer be put in *Ammonites*. The two specific names are not primary homonyms, but only secondary homonyms due to the action of Oppel (1862).

The Commission is therefore asked to use the plenary powers to restore *Ammonites valdani* d'Orbigny, 1844, and to suppress *Ammonites binotatus* Oppel, 1862.

4. As the action proposed above will alter most of the proposals in the original

application, the alternative set of proposals is given here in full:

It is submitted that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should:

(1) under the procedure prescribed by the Code, Art. 70a, for determining the type-species of a genus based on a misidentified type-species, use its plenary powers

(a) to set aside all selections of type-species for the genus *Acanthopleuroceras* Hyatt, 1900 made prior to the proposed decision and

(b) having done so, to designate *Ammonites valdani* d'Orbigny, 1844, to be the type-species of the said genus, in conformity with Art. 70a(ii) of the Code;

(2) use its plenary powers to:

(a) suspend the operation of the Law of Homonymy, as expressed in Art. 59(c) of the Code, in the case of *Ammonites valdani* d'Orbigny (1844 : 255), so that it is not invalidated by the action of Oppel (1862 : 133) in referring *Turrilites valdani* d'Orbigny (1843 : 179) to the genus *Ammonites* and then replacing the junior secondary homonym *Ammonites valdani* d'Orbigny, 1844, by *Ammonites binotatus* Oppel (1862 : 133);

(b) suppress the specific name *natrix* Scholtheim, 1820, as published in the binomen *Ammonites natrix*, for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy;

(3) place the generic name *Acanthopleuroceras* Hyatt, 1900, type-species as proposed in (1) above, to be designated under the plenary powers, *Ammonites valdani* d'Orbigny, 1844 (gender: neuter) on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology;

(4) place the specific name *valdani* d'Orbigny, 1844, as published in the binomen *Ammonites valdani*, and as defined by the lectotype designated by Getty (1970, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 27 : 107), on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology;

(5) place the specific name *natrix* Scholtheim, 1820, as published in the binomen *Ammonites natrix*, and as suppressed under the plenary powers in (2) above, on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology;

(6) place the specific name *binotatus* Oppel, 1862, as published in the binomen *Ammonites binotatus* (a junior objective synonym of *Ammonites valdani* d'Orbigny, 1844) on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.

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By D. T. Donovan (University College, London)

I support the application by Getty (1970) for use of the plenary powers to set aside the original type-species of *Acanthopleuroceras*. Getty has shown (*op. cit.*, para. 3) that, strictly interpreted, the genus should be used for a group of ammonites different, and of different stratigraphical age, from that to which it has commonly been applied. According to the current classification (Arkell, 1957) it would fall into subjective synonymy with *Echioceras* Bayle 1878. This, undoubtedly correct, interpretation is

however, contrary to the intention of Hyatt when he established *Acanthopleuroceras* (Getty, *op. cit.*, para. 4) and it has not been followed by any subsequent authority on Lower Jurassic ammonites.

2. The case for legalizing the current interpretation of *Acanthopleuroceras* rests (a) on the need for stability of nomenclature: it is a common fossil, and (b) on its stratigraphical importance: *A. valdani* is a subzonal index fossil.

3. I understand that a comment is being submitted (Howarth *in press*) calling for a modification of the original proposal in order to retain the well-known name *A. valdani* d'Orbigny and make it the type-species of the genus whereas the original proposal would make the little-used *Am. binotatus* Oppel the type-species. This is a matter of name only, the lectotype (Getty, *op. cit.*, pl. 3) being the same specimen in either case, and the two species objective synonyms. This being so, it is desirable to preserve the more familiar name if at all possible.

4. I therefore support the proposal by Getty as amended by Howarth; in the event of Dr. Howarth's amendment being rejected, however, I would support the original proposal.

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By Heinrich Bremer (*Ege Üniversitesi Fen Fakültesi, Jeoloji Kürsüsü, Bornova, İzmir-Turkey*)

I was involved in this problem myself several years ago and had stated rashly in my paper (Bremer 1965, p. 185) that I had made an application to the ICZN. Indeed I had prepared one and had chosen exactly the same species as Dr. Getty, but I had no opportunity to search for the French holotype of *A. valdani* (d'Orbigny) = *A. binotatus* (Oppel) before leaving for Turkey. I cited *A. natrrix* (Zieten non Schlotheim) as genero-typus for *Acanthopleuroceras* (p. 184) only because the child needed a name and I could not anticipate the decision of the ICZN. Dr Getty is right in criticizing this, as indeed I gave this species a new name a little below and knew that it was not valid as type-species.

I am very grateful to Dr. Getty for having completed what I was not able to complete, just in the same sense as I would have liked it, but on a sounder basis. Therefore I can only warmly support his application.

#### SUR LA QUESTION DE PHIDIPPUS AUDAX ET VARIEGATUS

Z.N.(S.) 1904

(see volume 27, page 103)

Pierre Bonnet (*Toulouse, France*)

H. W. Levi et L. J. Pinter ont proposé à la Commission d'user de ses pleins pouvoirs pour valoriser le terme de *Phidippus audax* (C. L. Koch, 1846) contre son synonyme prioritaire *P. variegatus* (Lucas, 1833).

J'approuve leurs raisons et je donnerai mon accord pour qu'il en soit ainsi, mais après qu'il aura été établi d'une façon formelle, que *audax* et *variegatus* sont bien la